



Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force

Success Story

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM



Of all the technology transfer activities, education outreach most directly impacts and benefits those who are the future—today's students. The Office of Technology Transfer for Education (TTE) program, located at the AFRL Phillips Research Site, brings the technology and expertise of Air Force scientists and engineers into classrooms throughout the State of New Mexico and beyond.

Over 60,000 students from more than 200 schools in New Mexico have benefited from TTE program efforts to date. Currently, TTE has 163 Education Partnership Agreements (EPA) processed or pending and 18 Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADA) processed or pending with local school districts.



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Accomplishment

The Space Vehicles and Directed Energy Directorates' TTE program received a 2001 Federal Laboratory Consortium Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. One of the most coveted awards in the tech transfer field, this award recognizes individuals within federal labs (and their industry partners) who have done outstanding work in transferring federally developed technologies.

The TTE has a proven track record of effective leveraging with outside sources. The Pinpoint WeatherNet project CRADA with KOB-TV4 generated over \$6.2 million of promotional airtime. More than 13% of mentors supporting the AFRL TTE program are from the private sector.

The TTE team fulfills four out of five congressional mandates for technology transfer. The Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Air Force acknowledged TTE's activities as a model for all of the Department of Defense and highlighted TTE in testimony to Congress in 2000 and 2001.

In 2002, the TTE managed the Space Rocks! Kids Festival for the 2002 World Space Congress. In 2000 and 2001, the TTE received commendations from the entire New Mexico Congressional Delegation. Also in 2001, the TTE received the Legislative Memorial of Appreciation for Education Outreach in New Mexico.

Background

The TTE program consists of five technology-based education outreach projects. These projects include the AFRL Mars Missions project for 5th graders, a classroom-based simulation adapted from the Challenger Center for Space Science Education's Marsville® project.

Another project, the AFRL Providing Engineering and Technology Experiences for Students project, bridges the transition from elementary to middle school and middle school to high school by fostering student mentorship in AFRL technologies. The Pinpoint WeatherNet project is a CRADA with KOB-TV4, which provides high-quality weather stations and on-line curriculum for New Mexico middle schools.

The AFRL Students Planning and Conducting Engineering project helps high school student teams design and conduct year-long, real-world research and development projects. The AFRL Technology Equipment for Kids project includes an EPA between the directorates and New Mexico Technet, Inc., which ensures students receive educationally useful, AFRL-donated technology tools.

Additional information

To receive more information about this or other activities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, contact TECH CONNECT, AFRL/XPTC, (800) 203-6451 and you will be directed to the appropriate laboratory expert. (03-VS-02)

Space Vehicles/Directed Energy
Technology Transfer